

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Eiji Kasutani, et al.

Examiner: Jayesh A. Patel

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:


In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached electronic form PTO/SB/08a, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. International Patent Application Publication No. WO 01/03005 A1, published January 11, 2001, together with English-language abstract; and
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication (Kokai) No. 2002-342374 published November 29, 2002, together with English-language abstract.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website on the date set forth below.

Dated: April 2, 2009



Paul J. Esatto, Jr.

The references were cited in an Official Action dated March 3, 2009 received from the Japanese Patent Official. A copy of the Official Action together with a translation thereof is enclosed. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the Official Action. Please note that the other reference cited in the Official Action was previously submitted in Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated November 29, 2004. Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited references required by 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (ii).

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of the Official Action in which the references are cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references are cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the Official Action submitted herewith.

Further, the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), a statement is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul J. Esatto, Jr.', written over the printed name.

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